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July 6, 2004 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Maria Linda Guillermo

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Douglas ALLARD

Serial No.: 10/053,978

Filed:

January 18, 2002

For:

CHITOSAN ENHANCED

DEWATERING BAG

Group Art Unit:

1724

Examiner:

Douglas J. Theisen

Atty. Dkt. No.:

11533.0024.NPUS00

Confirmation No.:

5146

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandra, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Theisen:

This is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the captioned application.

Applicant submits the following documents for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

- \mathbf{X} Form PTO-1083 Transmittal:
- \boxtimes Response to Final Office Action dated March 4, 2004;
- \boxtimes Amended Drawings;
- \boxtimes Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136;
- \times Return Receipt Postcard; and

Our checks to cover:

\$385.00 - Filing Fee for Request for Continued Examination (RCE) (37 C.F.R. § 1.114)

\$55.00 – Fee for Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. **08-3038** referencing docket number **11533.0024.NPUS00**. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No.08-3038 referencing docket number **11533.0024.NPUS00**.

Respectfully submitted,

(650) 463-8100

Heather to Jan

Date: July 6, 2004

Heather Fan (Reg. No. 51,664) Glenn W. Rhodes (Reg. No. 31,790) HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP Box 34 301 Ravenswood Avenue Menlo Park, CA 94025 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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TRAD TRAD Service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 1450

Maria Linda Guillermo

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In re application of:

Douglas ALLARD

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Art Unit: 1724

Examiner: THEISEN, Douglas J.

Atty. Docket: 11533.0024.NPUS00

Confirmation No.: 5146

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 4, 2004

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Response to the Final Office Action dated March 4, 2004, setting an initial due date of June 4, 2004. A Petition, with the requisite fee under 37 CFR §1.17(c), extending the due date by one month to July 4, 2004 accompanies this Response. Because July 4, 2004 is a Sunday and July 5, 2004 is a Federal holiday, the one-month extension effectively covers the next business day July 6, 2004. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application and allowance of the claims in view of Applicant's amendments and remarks made herein.